

"Building Our Sense of Community"

Shelton State Courier

—Campus Newspaper—

New Series Vol. 3, Number 1

Shelton State Community College

Jan. 14, 1999-Jan. 27, 1999

Is the Millennium bugging you, too?



Illustration by James A. Crawford II

If the idea of next year gives you real fear, then concentrate on the fun ideas Shelton has to celebrate the new Millennium

By the Courier Staff

Recently, a band of Colorado "Christians" sold all their worldly goods and moved to

Jerusalem to prepare for the end of the world that they're sure is coming on the stroke of midnight of 2000.

They were so aggravating and stupid that the Israeli police had to eventually arrest all 14 of them, six of whom were children. But instead of keeping them locked up for the year, they deported them back to Denver, where the group is based.

The Israelis believed the group's mission was to damage or destroy Al Aqsa, Islam's third holiest shrine. One popular theory of millennium researches has the de-

struction of the shrine causing the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple—considered by some Christians a necessary step before the return of Christ.

Israel believes this group was the first of many that will be taking the journey to the holy land to help along the return of Jesus. If he doesn't return, some have predicted mass suicide on holy land and shrines.

Year 2000 cont'd on pg. 3

Dr. Jim Jolly selected for new prestigious award at Shelton State

James L. (Jim) Jolly, Jr. has been selected as the first recipient of the Dr. and Mrs. John Todd Award for Exceptional Achievement in Teaching. The announcement was made by Shelton President Tom Umphrey during the college's annual Christmas breakfast.

The purpose of the Todd Award is to recognize outstanding accomplishments and achievements in the classroom and community by Shelton State faculty. The award was established by John Todd, III, M.D. and Phyllis J. Todd, R.N.

To be considered for the award, individuals must be tenured, full-time teaching members of the college faculty and nominated by faculty, staff, or admin-

istrators of the college. Selection is based on five criteria: contribution to the teaching field, membership and leadership in professional organizations; involvement in Shelton State functions; involvement in community service organizations and civic groups; contributions to the college and community; and the results of Shelton Student Evaluations for Spring Term, 1998.

Recipients of the award each year will have their names placed on a plaque at the college and will receive a \$1,000 cash award from the Todd family.

Jolly, who is currently chair of the Humanities Division of the

Jolly cont'd on pg. 3



A congratulatory moment is shared by (L-R) benefactor Phyllis J. Todd, recipient Jim Jolly, benefactor John Todd, State Board Member Sandra Ray and Shelton President Tom Umphrey

Sheltoniana Which Can Be Found Nowhere Else

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Look for the sales, discount coupons, and special notices in the Courier's ads

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Some plane help from Montgomery

Some financial assistance for the Shelton cabinetmaking program arrived on campus the other day in the form of a \$500 check. On hand for a brief ceremony were (L-R) Wallace Lancaster, instructor, Shelton President Tom Umphrey and State representative Gerald Allen

One Way of Looking at It...

Like living in a science fiction movie

If things get as bad as some of the experts say it might, then our lives are about to be immersed in a science fiction movie. And I say: it's about time!

The Y2K Bug can supposedly change our world in ways that are truly fundamental; life as we know it may soon be over. Sounds like the prologue narration of Sir Cedric Hardwick (or something like that) from *War of the Worlds*.

The computers are going to wreak havoc on our chances of survival by starting a war all on their own. Isn't that from *Colossus: The Forbin Project*? Or was that *War Games*?

Some people say that civilization as we know it will soon be over. We will be reduced to foraging for food, or maybe going underground to build primitive, computer-less manufacturing centers. Now if that's not the basic conceit of my all-time favorite, *The Time Machine*, then I don't know a tweed coat from a smoking jacket.

The Postman is about to ring twice—and this time it's for real!

Let's just hope it doesn't start raining. That's the only thing stopping us from living in *Waterworld*.

If you take the malls away from me, I'll be all right because I've watched *Logan's Run* a dozen times and I know there's sanctuary for me out there somewhere. I just need to forget about the false promises of renewal suggested by the

infernal machines that don't want anyone over 30 to stick around anyway.

Placid reality is pretty dang boring. After such abundant prosperity as we have all been experiencing, we need something to really shake things up around here. A war would be a bit *too* scary. But living through a world-wide computer crisis? Perfect.

Those motherboards might just be able to produce the mother of all struggles that Saddam promised in '91—but couldn't deliver.

So if your washing machine asks you if you would like to hear a nice little song and begins bleating out a chorus of "Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer do..." Well, don't go to your IBM-clone manual. Check out the video store for movies set in the very, very near future.

Yes, I for one am looking forward to living out the plot of a science fiction flick.

And if things get really hairy, all I'll have to do is challenge my Mac to a game of tic-tac-toe.

Or give it a cold—because there are no germs on Mars.

But if you see me heading out for sanctuary, send me a young Farrah Fawcett. The old ones getting a little long in the tooth.

I'm pushing my sled back out of the workshop now into the garden. After all, there just might be "another system..."

— Jim Kenny

Y2K means trouble for more than just computers

Is the Y2K bug going to get us all killed? Aside from the usual hustle of a college semester, that's the question on my mind in 1999.

I know that the big fear for most people is the stock market crashing or that planes will collide when the air traffic computers go out, or banks will close down and no one will have access to their money.

These are real fears and are very scary and plenty horrible enough to deal with on their own. But the thing that scares me the most is what some people are reading into this Y2K event.

Some are saying this may be the era promised by the book of Revelations and are determined to prove it.

Last week in the *Tuscaloosa News*, there was a story from the Associated Press about Israel exporting several members—14 in all, including six children—of a religious group called "Concered Christians," out of the Jerusalem for fear of their plans to help along the year 2000 prophecy.

Opinion

This prophecy is that the world will come to an end as foretold in the Bible with the second coming of Christ. Israel and the rest of us (or at least I) am afraid that some of these groups are more dangerous than anything else in 1999.

Looking at the situation as a prophecy does have its merits. If computers across the country shut down, it will be a nationwide and could develop into a global catastrophe.

Our society today cannot thrive; indeed, it cannot live, without the aid of computerization. We have simply put too much effort into automating things.

Simple things such as stopping by to get gas would stop—all the pumps are computerized, phones might not work, televisions would have no channels broadcasting, appliances that have service timers built in would cease to work.

These are common woes that everyone might encounter. The most important shut downs might come from elsewhere—the hospitals and the medical emergency sites.

Machines that have to be serviced, such as dialysis machines and ventilators to only name a few, do so according to what day of the month it is. If it can't read what day it is, it won't work right, if it works at all.

Police might not have dispatchers or central data banks to fight crime with. Their patrol cars might not even crank. Firemen would never get that fire call and ambulances would be driving around in circles trying to find an address.

In addition to worrying about what might not work—how bout we worry about what might work, but just not work the way they were intended to, such as our national defense system.

In the *USA Today* last month, the Associated Press ran a story quoting the Pentagon as saying they were only "mostly sure" our defense system would not mistakenly see a false missile or two and strike back or even launch first with no warning.

So between the religious jerks and our own stupidity we do have a bit of a problem to think about. Let's hope there are a lot of smart people doing something about them.

—James A. Crawford II

Future Issues

The *Courier* looks forward to 10 more issues this school year: one more in January, two each month in February, March and April; one each month is scheduled for May, June, July and August. Let us know what you would like to know about Shelton by calling the publisher at 391-2278 or the new Shelton editorial office at 391-2406.

Just how frightened are Shelton people about all the predictions of doom and gloom for the turn of the millennium? We randomly sampled the opinions of 62 Shelton people—mostly students—and found out that they seem a reasonable group on the subject.

Some 41% of Shelton folk believe that the glitch in the computer chips which will not allow most computers to recognize the year 2000 will bring major problems.

Indeed, about 20% felt that this bug and other millennium-end situations will produce the end of the world

The Courier Poll

41%

of Shelton people believe the Y2K bug is going to produce major disruptions in our society

in the next few years.

On the other hand, 83% of those polled said they were looking forward to the new millennium. This, of course, means that a certain percentage would seem to be looking forward to the end of the world!

Almost half of the people (47%) were already tired of hearing about the millennial hoopla. And not surprising at all, a good 66% of those asked said that for sure they would be tired of it all by the time Jan. 1, 2000 comes around.

Shelton State Courier

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The *Shelton State Courier* is a "campus newspaper" written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression and all students

are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper:

"The college seeks to provide an atmosphere conducive to open and honest intellectual inquiry in any college forum which is appropriate for dialogue and student participation. The students should feel free to exercise the right to dissent within limits of decorum and good taste."

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

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2000 Bug cont'd from pg. 1

These Armageddon pilgrims fixate on the significance of the round-numbered year 2000 without thinking through how arbitrary and actually insignificant it is—except for the importance humans place on it. All Biblical scholars agree, for instance, that Jesus was born sometime between 4 and 6 B.C., as the calendar is now calculated.

Nevertheless, we will still have those loonies and doubtless many others to contend with—along with all the other problems that are supposedly coming our way: planes that won't fly, teller machines that won't produce your money, power company computers that are so dense they'll think it's 1900 and will be looking for coal and kerosene to generate power for your homes.

Where does Shelton stand in the coming year 2000 glitch?

With the impending year 2000 bug just around the corner, students at Shelton State are wondering how or even if the bug will affect their classes or schedules.

Shelton seems to be in pretty good shape internally. Paul Sellers, of the Management Information

department assured the *Courier* just before the holidays that systems will be on-line and healthy after New Year's 1999.

"We shouldn't have any problems at all. We've already got the hardware in place and up and running," says Sellers.

Karen Van Luvender, Business director at Shelton says her department is also in good shape for next year.

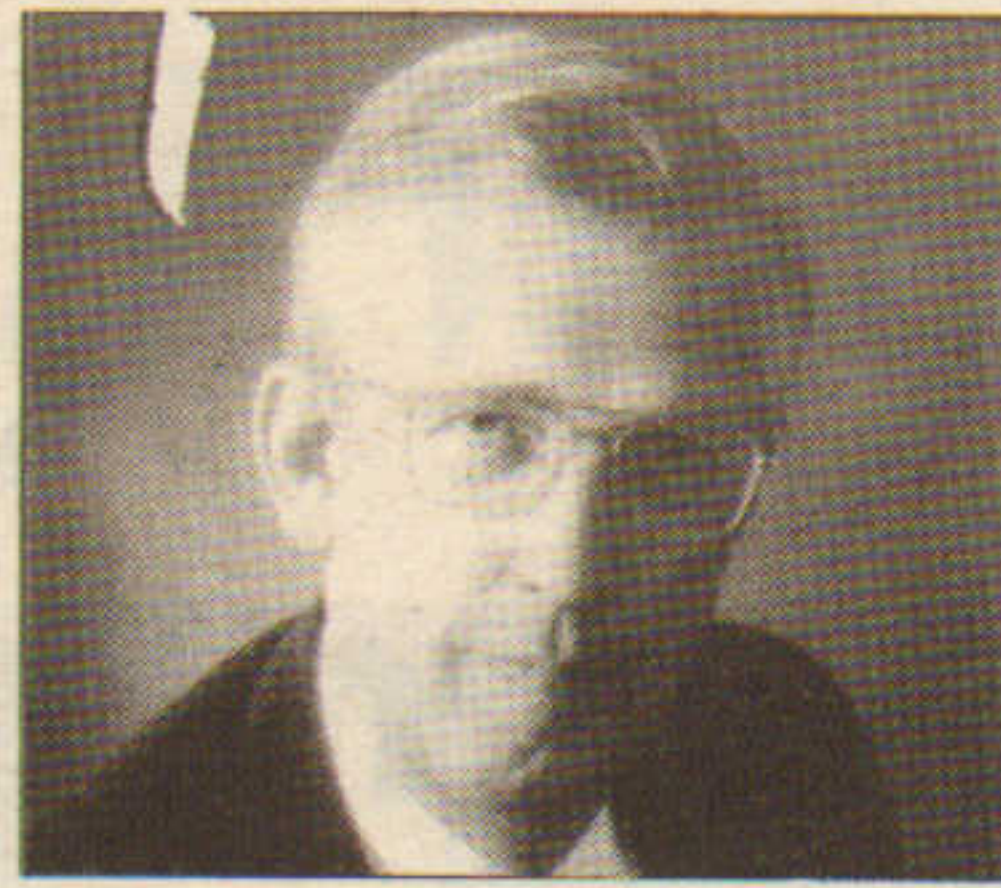
Millennium Evenings at Shelton

So if we look just to our own business, maybe we can relax a bit and think about some of the positive things the new millennium might bring. If nothing else, the passing of a thousand-year milestone should be a time for humanity to take stock of our place in the universe.

Shelton State as a college will be doing just that several times in the next 12 months.

Several of the State's top business, political, and educational leaders will be at Shelton State Community College on Tuesday, January 19, for the kick-off of the college's first Millennium Evening, an activity which is part of Shelton's Millennium celebration.

A forum, entitled "Alabama—Looking at the 21st Century," examines the future of the state and brings Elmer Harris, Presi-



Among those participating in the panel discussion on Jan. 19 will be Alabama Power's Elmer Harris (above); Shelton President Tom Umphrey and Bill O'Connor, president of the Alabama Business Council (right)

dent of Alabama Power, Larry Langford, Mayor of Fairfield, Bill O'Connor, President of the Alabama Business Council, and Tom Umphrey, President of Shelton, to the Shelton State for the evening.

Linda Grote, Division Chair of Social Sciences, Speech, and Fine Arts, for Shelton, will serve as moderator for the evening.

The forum will begin at 7 p.m. in the Bean-Brown Theatre, and a reception will be held following the forum. There is no cost for the forum and the community is invited to attend.

"This is the first of several Millennium Evenings scheduled this year as part of our Millennium



Celebration," said Shelton President Tom Umphrey.

"There will be events all during 1999 and into the year 2000 in celebration of this milestone in human history. We believe, as we approach this new time, that we must learn to think in new and different ways, to look at the world through a global perspective, and to work toward unity for all people.

"Yet Shelton State recognizes that with all the new technology it is important that we not lose the human touch, the individual caring and concern that has made Shelton

State Community College unique. These same qualities will guide the college as it moves in new and different directions in the future," said Umphrey.

Other Millennium Evenings scheduled during 1999 include a motivational speech and appearance by famed race car driver Bobby Allison on Thursday, Jan. 21, and a special Evening on Celebrating Black Future in February as part of Black History Month.

On Friday, April 23, nationally acclaimed Alabama artist William Christenberry will be at Shelton State for an exhibit and lecture. John Berendt, author of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* will be at Shelton's Bean-Brown Theatre on Thursday, Sept. 23.

Other Millennium activities are scheduled during the year including productions and other activities by the college's Fine Arts department and Theatre Tuscaloosa. A career fair, the Sundown Millennium Run, the college's 1999 homecoming activities, and many other planned events are scheduled over the next 12 months. A grand finale is also planned by the college for January 2000.

For additional information on the first Millennium Evening or any other activity at the college, contact the public relations office, 391-2221 or 391-2252.

Jolly cont'd from pg. 3

Alabama along with and M.A. in English Literature and a B.A. in American Literature from the University. He received an A.S. in Liberal Arts from Gadsden State Junior College.

Jolly has made numerous presentations to various professional and local community and groups. He has authored "John Gorman Barr," in *A Biographical Guide to Alabama Authors*, which is currently under publication.

In 1998, he represented Shelton State faculty for the Alabama College systems' Outstanding Junior college Faculty Member Award. He also serves as a juror, reader, and reviewer of articles and poetry for publication in *Teaching English in the Two-Year College*, a national journal for teachers of English in two-year schools.

He is a member of the Alabama Association of Developmental Education, the Alabama College English Teachers' Association, the Alabama Council of Teachers of English, American Speech Association, College Humanities Association, Committee on

Doublespeak, and the Conference on College Composition and Communication.

Other professional organizations for Jolly include the American Place Name Society, the National Council of Teachers of English, the Southeast Conference on Linguistics, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, the Southeastern Renaissance Society, and the Tuscaloosa Reading Association.

At Shelton, in addition to his division chair and teaching responsibilities, Jolly has been significantly involved in the Total Quality Management movement. He has also served on a number of statewide committees.

Jolly is a 1998 member of Leadership Tuscaloosa and served as faculty for the National Issues Forum Leadership Training Institutes held at the University of Alabama and at Shelton State in 1993-95 and 1997.

He is a member of the Tombigbee Girl Scout Council Executive committee, the Executive committee of Ms. Senior Alabama, Inc. and serves as a field director the Miss Alabama Pageant, Inc.

He is married to Joyce Jolly, director of planning for Shelton State, and they have one son, Jed.

The purpose of the Todd Award is to recognize outstanding accomplishments and achievements in the classroom and community by Shelton State faculty

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Fifty-three students named to Who's Who in J Cs

On Dec. 14, 1998, Shelton State announced the names of 53 students from the college who will be included in the 1999 edition of WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN JUNIOR COLLEGES.

Selection is based on academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

The new members join an elite group of students from more than 1,800 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

Students named in 1998 from Shelton State Community College are:

Michelle Carnathan, Michael Joseph Carter, Jodi F. Chandler, Rebecca Colburn, Starr Deas, Eva B. Duncan, Terri Leigh Harland, Sherry R. Hassell, Richard Wayne Hennings, Jr., Leann Nicole Jones, Latonya Marcel Law, Dedra Lary, Terri Diane

Ledbetter, Jennifer Lynn McGuff, Martha J. Mize, Mark Lee Moore, Lisa Morris, Kathy D. Rowland, Kim Renae Rutley, Teresa Shadwick, Nancy Gail Smith, Charlie Sarah Spence, William David Steele, Heather N. Strickland, Heather Malone Watson, Miranda Leigh Whitfield, Alicia Nicole Wiggins, Ling Yang, Tiffany M. Brown, Thelma Brown Carpenter, Daniel P. Cooley, Frieda J. Dennis, Clifton N. Durrett, William M. Dyer, Jr., Glenda S. Fair, Mr. Tommy Garrett, Carol Ward Hartley, David J. House, Christopher F. Jones, Mary Jessica McCafferty, James Tommy Oswalt, Shelia Walthall Owens, Matthew B. Rice, Anthony Riggs, Todd Sanders, Sarah Beth White-Showalter, LaTasha R. Scott, Charles William Strickland, Heath Weldon, Denise Caples White, Stephanie L. Williams, Jason Woods, Michael Dean Wyatt.

1999 Miss Shelton State Scholarship Pageant

The pageant will be held Jan. 16 in the Bean-Brown Theatre

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The Mass Communication program at Shelton State is accepting applications from students who want to learn about film, TV, newspaper and other media from the world-famous media giants in Los Angeles. In order to ensure our place at the UCLA seminars, students must sign up as soon as possible. For more information, call Dr. Jim Kenny at 2278.

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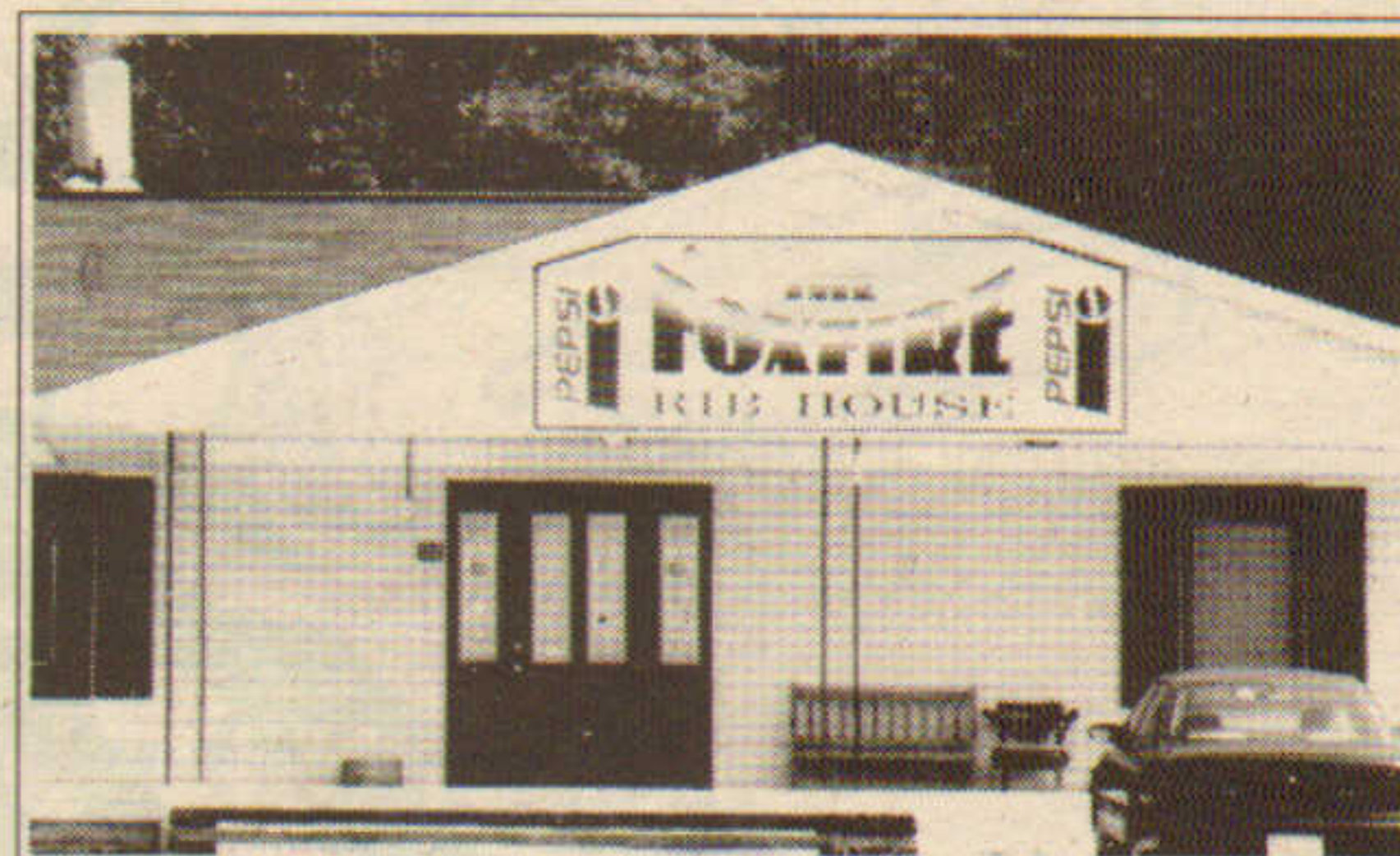
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Student Government Association to make a move to be more visible

Tuesday, Jan. 12, President Becky Avery announced that the SGA will begin to hold some of its weekly meetings in a very accessible location.

"We're going to try and hold some of the meetings in the atrium beginning in February. I'd like to see some of the other clubs join us as well in a show of unity. I think it would be a step toward getting some good publicity for the SGA and let everyone know we're here," says Avery.

The SGA is currently meeting in room 126 on the first floor of the West wing on Tues. at 2:30.

Meetings are open to all students

The SGA also announced that it will hold a spring retreat for this semester. The exact weekend will be announced at a later date.

"We hope to use it as a training period for new officers, as well as have a little fun," says Avery.

In addition to the retreat the SGA plans to conduct monthly so-

cial events, such as *Night out at the Bowling Alley*, to be held at Leland Lanes, a night of Paintball, open mike Karaoke night, Coffee House night and several planned dances.

"We're trying to bring more and more activities for students. This will hopefully be just the beginning," says Avery.

In addition the SGA has a hand in sponsoring some intercollegiate sports such as flag football and a basketball tournament.

Nuwan, Shelton's chess expert, says the board game helps fine tune the mind

Nuwan Suriyagoda, an international student from Sri Lanka who is enrolled at the college, passionately believes that chess is not just a game; it is also an genuine educational experience.

According to Nuwan—as everyone calls him—scientific research proves that chess skills help develop good reading, writing, critical thinking, analysis, strategy and memory skills.

To emphasize his point, Nuwan recites a number of telephone numbers he recently called. "I don't write down any telephone number. I just remember it. I read it and keep it in my mind if I think it's important," he says.

The research on the value of chess was conducted by the United States Chess Federation, Nuwan explains. "There were 40 students in the experiment. Twenty of these students were isolated from chess for two semesters. The other 20 were taught chess. At the end of two terms, the 40 students were

tested again. There was a big change in the academic achievement levels of students not playing chess," Nuwan claims.

In addition to the classes he is taking at Shelton, Nuwan, who has played chess for 15 years and taught it for seven, taught chess classes at Rock Quarry Elementary, Skyland Elementary and Woodland Forest Elementary Schools this fall.

At each school, students were divided into two groups: those in kindergarten

through second grade and those in third through the fifth grades. Students who participated in the program attended a one-hour class session after school, Monday through Friday, for about two months.

In 1997, Nuwan was named the Alabama Class A champion. He was also 14th in the World Open in class A and received an Expert rating. His next goal in chess is to achieve the ranking of United States Chess Master.

Nuwan plans to complete his associates degree in business at Shelton this spring.

Chess skills help develop good reading, writing, critical thinking, analysis, strategy and memory skill...

January auditions set for TT's *A Little Night Music*

Theatre Tuscaloosa has scheduled auditions for *A Little Night Music* for Jan. 25 and 26 at 7 p.m. in the Wilson Carr Rehearsal Hall on the campus.

A Little Night Music has been hailed as one of Stephen Sondheim's most lyrical scores. The original production garnered five Tony awards and ran for 601 performances at the Shubert Theatre. The song "Send in the Clowns" became a number-one hit on the pop charts in 1973.

The story concerns three mismatched couples. Desiree

Armfeldt, an actress, is seeing Carl Mangus Malcolm, who is married to Charlotte Malcolm. Frederik Egerman, Desiree's past lover, is married to the still-virginal Anne, who is half his age. Henrik Egerman, Frederik's son who is also a divinity student, loves his stepmother Anne, who is a year younger than he. Petra, maid to Frederik and Anne; Madam Armfeldt, Desiree's mother; and Frederica, Desiree's daughter, round out the cast.

The action occurs in town and at "a weekend in the country"

at Madam Armfeldt's house in the land of the midnight sun.

Theatre Tuscaloosa's production, under the direction of Paul K. Looney with musical production by William Henderson and choreography by Susan Looney, is scheduled for performances on March 19-28.

Roles are available for seven men and eleven women plus an on-stage quintet. Person auditioning should bring a prepared song with sheet music in the proper key and will be asked to participate in a group dance audition.

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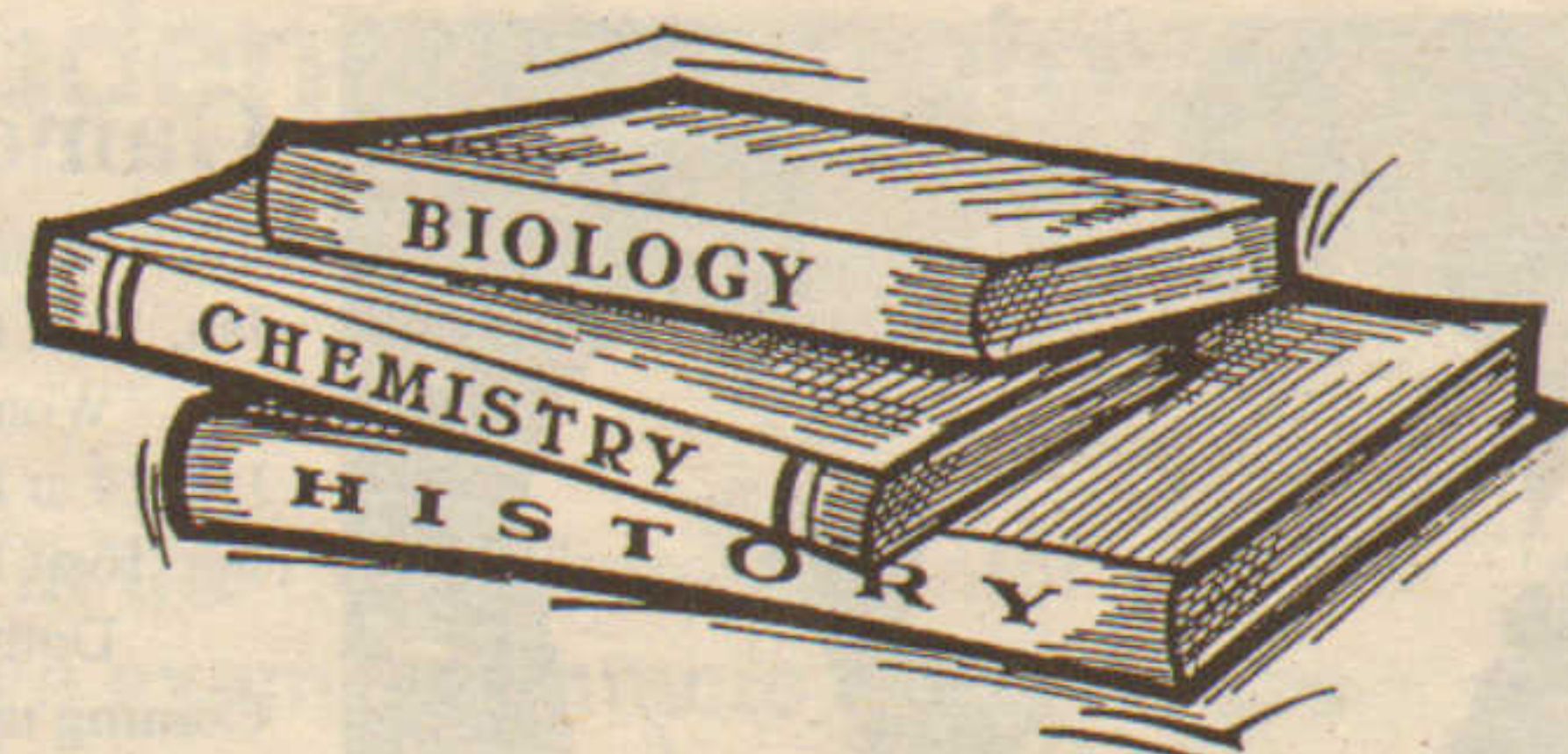
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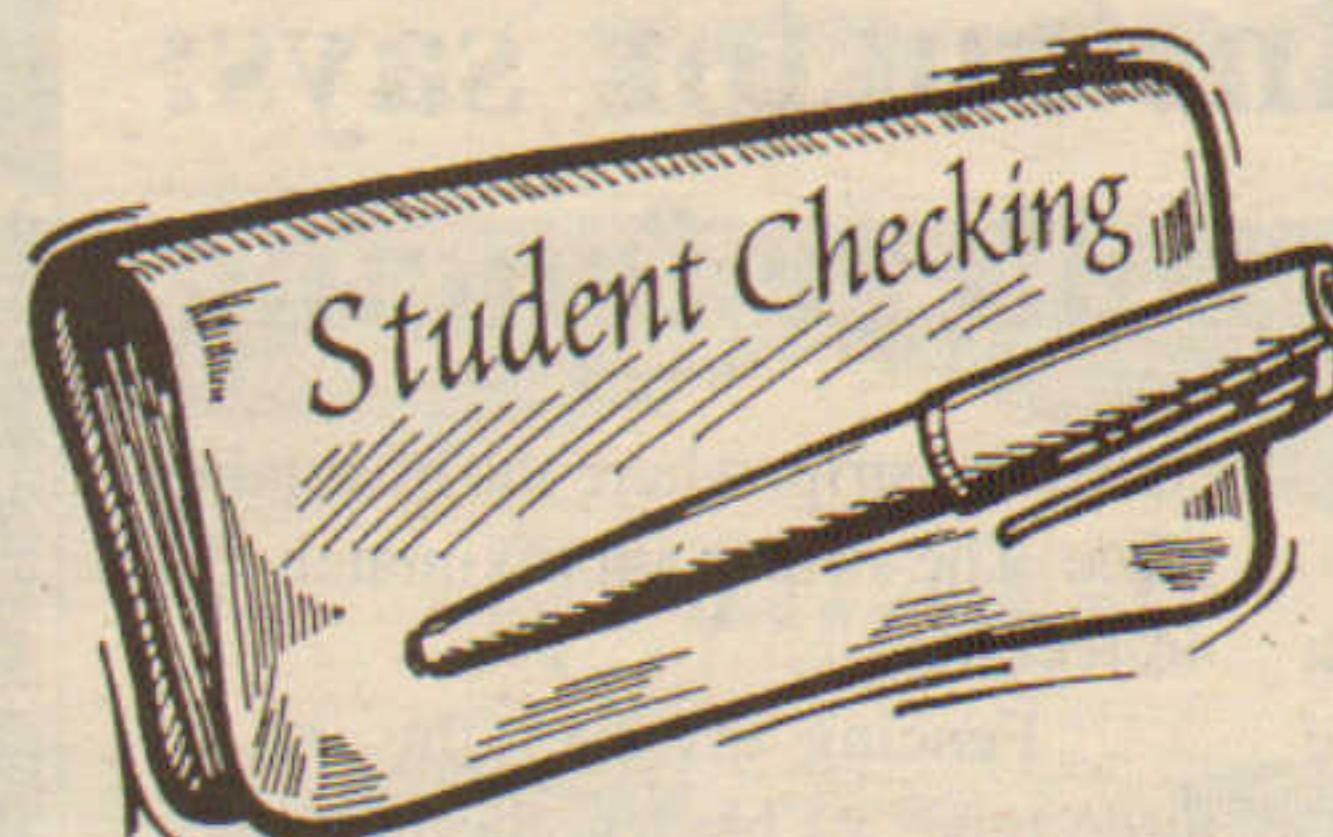
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Shelton's final numbers good in the fall

Final enrollment figures for fall 1998 semester at Shelton show the college experienced a 5 1/2 % increase over 1997 fall semester, according to Shelton President Tom Umphrey.

"This is the first significant enrollment increase Shelton has experienced since our move to the new campus in 1997," Umphrey said. "At Shelton we strive to offer opportunities for high-quality education. With our new campus, we now offer improved course offerings, convenient time slots for classes, and easy access to the campus. All of these reasons plus the hard work on the part of our

faculty and staff account for the enrollment increase.

In the fall, 5,464 students were enrolled in classes at Shelton. This figure does not include short-term training courses, according to Umphrey.

An additional 1,200 students went through the college's training for business and industry programs this past fall.

In 1987, the official enrollment at the college for the fall semester was 5,188 students.

According to the public relations office at Shelton, the college is one of the largest two-year colleges in the state.

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Sports

—The Buccaneers are here to Play—

En Garde! Instructor says: take a stab at college fencing

By James A. Crawford II

On a little space of earth beneath their feet, the fate of the game holds in balance.

This scenario might be true for several sports: basketball, football, baseball or even soccer, but it's especially relevant to the little publicized but age-old sport of fencing.

Fencing is one of a relatively few athletic programs that thrive largely in the dark beside the mainstream programs such as football and basketball, but fencing programs have their aficionados and a tradition that goes back long before leather balls were in such vogue.

"I liked the idea of fencing. It seemed different from the other sports that I'm familiar with. The one-on-one aspect of it appealed to me. It was something I really wanted to try and I really enjoyed it," says Melissa Dover, a student at Shelton State who took fencing in the Fall.

Fencing is a complex sport involving two opponents, referred to as fencers, who match wits and physical ability in a small area

called the strip, where the bout takes place. The strip is approximately 6 x 46 feet long.

Fencing involves the use of three types of blades, the foil, epee and the sabre. Fencers use these weapons to strike at their opponent and make contact. Contact is considered to be a touch that would be a killing blow if the fencers weren't wearing protective gear.

The bout is regulated by a referee and four judges who watch for touches, which move at blazing fast speeds.

At Shelton State, the fencing program is available at three levels: a class in the PED curriculum and a fencing club—the *Corsairs*—taught by Dr. Bruce Bizzoco, and recently the Continuing education program has added fencing as one of its classes to be taught by Michael McGregor.

Dr. Bizzoco, who also teaches archaeology and anthropology and is assistant to the Academic Dean Arthur Howington, has been fencing for 25 years and coaching for 20. He brings a wealth of experience to the table.

"I think fencing is a very unique sport. While it does have a team at-

Fencing cont'd on pg. 9



Coaches Bruce Bizzoco (R) and Michael McGregor, along with Dr. John Fisher (C), head of the Poison Control Center, all share a common love—fencing

Games this week:

Men's Basketball:

Jan. 14 at Home vs. Bishop St.

Women's Basketball:

Jan. 14 at Home vs. Bishop St.

Jan. 16 at Dothan vs. Wallace-Dothan

Coming up next week:

Men's Basketball:

Jan. 19 at Home vs. Gadsden St.

Jan. 21 at Enterprise vs. Enterprise

St. Jan. 25 at Home vs. Walker College

Women's Basketball:

Jan. 19 at Home vs. Gadsden St.

Jan. 21 at Enterprise vs. Enterprise St.

Jan. 25 at Home vs. Lurleen B.

Wallace St.

Players of the week:

Men's Basketball: Daniel Ike. Daniel haies from Tuscaloosa and had a game high of 20 points against Wallace-Henderson.

Women's basketball: LaTonya Wilson. LaTonya had a game high of 20 points against Beville State on Jan. 5.

Shelton basketball looking to gain more ground in first season with new coaches

This year Shelton State basketball is in the unique position of having both the men's and the women's teams in the rebuilding stages with two new coaches.

Barry Mohun, coach of the men's team, comes from Prattville, where he served as Head coach for four years.

During his last year at Prattville, which ended in 1998, his team went 27-8 and took a trip to the Final Four where they lost to Minor, who went on to be State champs.

Mohun came to Shelton during the summer last year. He hopes to see the Buccaneers improve in some key areas before the end of his first season.

"We try and play a fast-paced game. We do pretty good on offense. I think changing the defence will help us. We need to



First-year coach Madonna Thompson huddles up with her team during another exciting game at Shelton

work on our rebounding more," says Mohun.

Shelton's men's team is currently at 8-7 on the year with 14 more games in regular season plus the AJCCC and NJCAA tournaments.

"Our hopes are really high for playing in the conference. There are some really tough teams out there, Falkner St., Lawson St. and Southern

Union are all real strong," says Mohun.

Unfortunately the men hit a snag on Monday night with a 70-87 loss to Wallace-Hanceville on the road.

"We just basically stayed behind. They started well and were making shots on us early from the perimeter. We tried to dig out and managed to get back in the game several times but couldn't sustain it.

"You can't let one game bother you; hopefully you learn from it.

It showed us to come ready to play no matter who it is," says Mohun.

If the team is shaken you couldn't tell it. Team spirit is high and morale seems uplifted. Thursday's game—Jan. 14—could be the big turn-around they need.

Coaches cont'd on pg. 9

Sports are in full gear for the spring

Third and final part in a Series examining the college's athletic program

By James A. Crawford II

Although it's cold outside right now, spring is just around the corner and Shelton is looking forward to an exciting new year of sports.

Basketball will soon be playing tournament games and wrapping up the season but others are just getting started.

Shelton State Baseball starts the Spring training in February. It looks to be a fun year.

"Coach Sprowl has told me he's very excited about the up and coming baseball season," says Jim Collins, Athletic Director for Shelton State.

In addition to the men's

baseball, the women have a challenging season ahead of them that's a bit different from the years before.

"This year in women's softball they're going to fast-pitch, so that should be exciting to watch. Plus all the other community colleges are using fast-pitch and the NCAA uses fast-pitch. It ought to be interesting," says Collins.

Collins is also the Golf Coach at Shelton State. His team currently holds a number two ranking in the nation.

Spring cont'd on pg. 10

So Who Will Win This Year?

*Talent
Swimsuit*

*Evening Gown
Interview*



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President Thomas E. Umphrey**

Tickets \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. Advanced tickets can be purchased from Lisa Matherson in Financial Aid, Bonnie Sabbagh in the Dean of Students Office Pam Cole in Biology and Kathryn Williams on the Fredd campus

Miss Shelton State Pageant

January 16 at 7 p.m. in the Bean-Brown Theatre of Shelton State

Coaches cont'd from pg. 8

The women's team has some rough edges of their own to iron out.

Madonna Thompson, coach of the women's team, says it's all about team unity to her: a lesson she learned from Coach Rick Moody at Alabama when she played for him during the 91-92 and 94-95 seasons.

"Coach Moody really emphasized team togetherness and we've really tried to do the same here with such a small squad," says Thompson.

Thompson graduated from Alabama with a master's degree in Speech Language Pathology, but she had kept in touch with Moody and found her love of basketball too much to bear to stay away from the game.

While taking a job in Birmingham, she worked with AAU, the Amateur Athletic Union, which has a summer league of basketball players made up of the best in local talent.

When the position at Shelton came open, she just couldn't resist. "At first, I was working two

jobs trying to work out the rest of my two-week notice in Birmingham and starting down here.

"I always loved basketball. Even though I have a master's degree in something else, I always felt I would do something with basketball. It all fell into place with this job," says Thompson.

Shelton's women's team is at 5-7 for the year with 14 regular-season games left plus the tournaments. Their record doesn't do them justice.

"We've played most of the year with only eight girls. We just recently added Mary Maze, a strong shooting guard, but the rest of the time it's been just those seven.

"One of the key factors in our games is fatigue. We play our hearts out the first half and we're winning; then we start to run out of gas. We're also real conscious of fouls. If we get into foul trouble, we're in real big trouble," says Thompson.

Thompson has had her hands full with such a small team. Every win seems almost like a blessing.

"We've been struggling some. Our shooting has been off, but again that has a lot to do with

fatigue and our small numbers.

"It's been tough in terms of substituting. We have to play some girls the whole time," says Thompson.

Thompson has Thursday's outing to look forward to after a week of downtime.

"I've heard from some coaches that Bishop State was pretty good. Height doesn't seem to be a problem, but I'm told they have good athletes and like to run the floor," says Thompson.

According to Thompson, she doesn't plan on changing her game plan any. She just wants to tune up the play a bit.

"We have to try and get our own game better before we try and change to match an opponent. We still have several areas we need to improve," says Thompson.

Both coaches are optimistic about the remainder of the season. Both have battled tremendous odds in struggling programs, but are holding steady. Recruiting is going well and next year looks to be a second step in the right direction for a winning program for both the men and women Buccaneers.

Fencing cont'd from pg. 8

mosphere in some respect, it is basically a one-on-one sport. It's a challenge between two people," says Bizzoco.

The fencing class in Shelton's continuing education program is no less endowed with a skilled coach in Michael McGregor, an instructor from Canada, who has been fencing for eight years and coaching for six. In addition to working with Shelton as an instructor, McGregor is finishing up a degree in clinical psychology at Alabama.

Along with the continuing education class he teaches, McGregor remains very active with the Corsairs.

"In the club, we want to cater to high school and college students. That's what I've always taught," says McGregor.

The club is open to everyone from 10 years of age and up. They have a range of activities from teaching fencing skills to participating in tournaments.

"I use a lot of games to help develop skills. I think it helps to develop interest," says McGregor.

The club builds on what the PED class teaches. They share the equipment and gym space at Shel-

ton State.

On Feb. 6, the Shelton State and the Corsairs will be hosting an open tournament at Shelton State.

The tournament will be free to everyone and prizes will be awarded for the winners. It will start at 9 a.m. and continue till 3 p.m.

"I think it will be very interesting. There will be non-fencing activities such as skill drills. We will be handing out trophies and handing out prizes," says McGregor.

He's not the only one supporting the tournament. Several key sponsors have chipped in with donations.

"We have been very fortunate in getting some donations. We will have over \$600 in prizes to award," says Bizzoco.

Prizes have been donated by the following: The banner and the drinks are being supplied by Pepsi, a watch donated by Roebok, a fencing print by Picture This, an antique clock by Wood Lane Furniture, medals and floral arrangements from Gene Lary's Trophy Shop, jewelry from both Atlanta Cutlery and Woodson Fencing Center in New York, prints and a magazine subscription from Hamner Terz Forum and fencing equipment such as bags, weapons and t-shirts from Blade Fencing Equipment.

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Racing legend Bobby Allison to give motivational talk at the college Jan. 21

Famed race car driver Bobby Allison will be at Shelton State on Thursday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Bean-Brown theatre for a motivational talk sponsored by the University of Alabama's student chapter of the society of Automotive Engineers and Shelton.

"Mr. Allison's magnificent career has thrilled a generation of racing fans, and we're pleased this extraordinary race car driver could join us for this event," said Dr. Verle Schrod, interim dean of UA's College of Engineering.

According to Shelton President Tom Umphrey, the purpose of the evening is to emphasize the importance of an education and to reinforce a tie-in between automotive technology and engineering. "In the future, there will be a greater partnership between those who work on automobiles and those who design them. Mr. Allison is a living legend in the state, and we are excited to have him with us for the evening," Umphrey said.

The program is one of Shelton State's Millennium Evenings, which are described as special events during 1999 to celebrate the coming of the new millennium.

There is no cost for the event, and the 1983 NASCAR Winston Cup champion will remain afterwards to sign autographs.

A native of Florida, Allison has lived in Hueytown, Ala., for more than 30 years. At age 62, Allison has set a number of records during his career. In 717 races, he has won over \$7 million, and in 420 career super speedway starts, he has won nearly \$5 million.

Allison was the Auto Racing Driver of the Year two times and was a runner-up in the Winston Cup five times. Allison remains the fastest-ever General Motors race qualifier and the second overall (217.797) for the 1987 Winston-500 in Talladega, Ala.

Bobby Allison's story began in 1959 when he left

Miami, Fla., with his brother Donnie, and two other Florida youngsters, Kenny Andrews and Gil Hearn. The four came to Alabama in search of "racing territory," according to Allison. After two weekends of racing, including his first win at the Montgomery Speedway, Allison returned to Florida talking about what a great place he found Alabama to be.

Allison returned to Alabama along with his brother and red farmer. "Donnie, red and I won a lot of races back then, and we have enjoyed much success in racing. Our memories of the early days of racing and finding a gold mine in Alabama far outweigh what the sport is today. The rest is history," Allison adds.

For more information on the evening, contact Philip Coleman at 391-2476 or Bobby Reese, 391-2631 at Shelton State.

Robert Townsend Tech. hands out awards

By LaKiesha Steele

The red carpet was rolled out, the people shook with anticipation, and the awards were in place. The only thing left was for the movie stars to walk through.

On Dec. 13, 1998, thirty students graduated from Robert Townsend Tech., a program in which high school students from Tuscaloosa, who were interested in being in the movies and needed a chance to prove their ability, could display their talent.

The students were driven to the Bean-Brown theatre for the awards ceremony in Mercedes Benz M-class vehicles of all colors. The use of the Mercedes was donated by the Mercedes plant located in Vance.

The surprise guest speaker was Victoria Rowell of the *Young & the Restless* and *Diagnosis Murder*. The actress has also appeared in movies such as *Dumb and*

Dumber, *The Distinguished Gentleman* and most recently in HBO's *Eva Bayou*.

Two of the presenters for the night were Tyrone Burton and Reagan Gomez-Preston from Townsend's TV sitcom *Parenthood*.

The students were presented with awards ranging from Best class clown to Best actor and actress.

Anthony Noland from Central High West was named as Best Actor and Portia Shepherd from Hale County was named as Best Actress. Intern Fred DeLoach was named as best supporting actor and best warm-up dancer.

Guest speakers throughout the program were Betty Thomas from the TV series *Hill Street Blues* and Michati Williams (Bubba from the movie *Forrest Gump*). The guest teacher was Donna Michelle Anderson, a writer and producer from L.A.

Robert Townsend Tech. was the idea of Senator Charles Steele

Jr., Tony Lockand, and of course Robert Townsend. It was designed to offer an opportunity for students to express their talents in a professional setting.

One student, Monet Rice, told News 49, this was an experience she will never forget, and could use throughout life.

The program has been a great success says Senator Charles Steele, "Hopefully, this project will continue and will lead to a movie studio here in Tuscaloosa."

This was not only a great opportunity for the high school students involved but also for Shelton State and its students who are active in theatre, some of which were chosen to help teach classes.

Thanks was extended to Robert Townsend and his staff from L.A., and also to Paul Looney, Tina Fitch and Michael Carr from Shelton State and State Senator Charles Steele Jr. for helping

Program cont'd from pg. 8

"I was kind of surprised a little about the ranking because we have so many freshmen, but we had a good fall. We won one tournament and placed third in intercollegiate. The spring will tell the tale, though. We have some tough teams ahead of such as Tyler in Texas. They've won the championship the last four years, so I'm looking forward to it. I want to see what these boys can do," says Collins.

Coach Collins points out that this year may be more than just a step in the right direction for Shelton Sports.

"The one thing I've noticed in the past year is more support from the faculty. That's getting better and better. At one time it was like no one seemed to care, but that doesn't seem to be the case now.

"Having more faculty support means a lot and then we hope-

fully can get more student support," says Collins.

Sports still have a ways to go though. The sports department sorely lacks in transportation needs and in funding for the future.

"Transportation remains a big problem. Shelton does have a bus but there's just no money in the budget (for upkeep).

"It costs so much per mile for gas and maintenance that it costs a fortune. Most of the coaches don't have any money to spend. Most of them are worried about finishing the season," says Collins.

Shelton's sports department has come a long way towards getting support from the faculty and staff and has made some inroads on getting students involved.

If the college's teams can manage to find the money to attend all the games, perhaps the students might just find the wherewithal to drag themselves off the strip and/or the couch and attend more home games. As Coach Collins says: a winning sports program takes an effort from everyone.

BULLETIN BOARD

When you go Internet surfing next time, check out two sites about the college

The official Shelton State home page is <http://www.shelton.cc.al.us>. This site will in the next week include a link to none other of august publications as your *Shelton State Courier*.

Another Shelton site is maintained by Paul Sellers; it can be found at <http://web.dbtech.net/~jp532/schedule>. We are also fond of this site because it, too hasn't forgotten its friend the newspaper and features highlights of the *Courier*. *Courier* editor James Crawford claims that it, too, is a "jam-up" site.

Try the Food Court's latest addition: the **Buccaneer Breakfast Sandwich**. It is probably worth the delay in breaking your fast just to say you've had something to eat named after pirates. Manager "Rafic" says the saber food pins are on order.

Millennium tip of the Month

During the course of daily life in 1999, several situations may arise dealing with the upcoming Millennium that may affect your everyday life. Some are big problems but some can be fixed easily. This month's helpful tip comes from Paul Sellers. If you know of any loop holes or tricks to bypass the Y2K bug please send them to the *Courier*. The winning submission will receive a free lunch at the Sodexo Food court.

After New Year's in 1999, if you try to program your VCR to record something you might have a bit of a problem. It might not work.

If your VCR reads a two digit year to program the record time use the year 1973. The days match up perfectly with what they will be in 2000. 1974 will match up with 2001 and so on. This will allow you to not only catch your favorite shows each week but will allow you to put off buying a new VCR for a while.

Food Court "Interactive Newspaper" Corner

"Sad fans on alcohol get mad, while angry fans on alcohol get even madder"

Several times every year, we citizens of Tuscaloosa get a chance to watch the brightest new stars and greatest legends in music. But some people don't come to hear the music.

One of the biggest music events we have here in T-town each year is the

But some people don't go to hear the music, unfortunately they spend their time and ours making a scene while under the influence. It often seems people use these occasions to let loose and go wild.

"Everyone knows that alcohol and county music just doesn't mix," says Amber Kirby, an attendant at last year's "Family Reunion," a country music extravaganza put on each year by Tuscaloosa's 98.1 radio station. Kirby got more than she paid for or even wanted in entertainment.

"Sad fans on alcohol get mad, while angry fans on alcohol get even madder," according to Kirby.

One way to look at this is from the artist's point of view. Let's say your a big country music star or maybe a newcomer. Still, you have a job to do—to entertain.

Entertaining is the thing you have worked hard for your whole life. You have spent countless hours writing new material, rehearsing, playing at hole-in-the-wall clubs, and doing whatever else it takes to make it big.

Finally, you've made it. Here you are playing at say a Country Music Festival for the most important people in your career, your fans.

The band starts playing, you begin singing, and the majority of what you see before you is chaos, alcohol-induced chaos. So, how does this make you feel?

Depressed or angry probably. This is not the reaction you would expect from your biggest fans. So, will you be back next year? Probably not.

Now, if you are the everyday country music fan, you just came here to see a good show. You put on your best cowboy outfit and came out to be entertained. The heat is a little rough and the crowds are all around, but through it all you are still

enjoying the music.

You do though have to keep an eye out for trouble no matter where you are. Even at a family orientated concert.

John Channell reflects on the events of last years *Family Reunion*, "Out of nowhere, this guy comes running by and smashes another fellow in the neck with a beer bottle," says Channell.

"We knew there were gonna be some fights, but we didn't expect anything like this," said Amanda Wallace, another attendant of last year's *Reunion* show.

So, here you are, the innocent country fan dodging beer bottle, flying fists, and the obscenities of others around you. Will you be back next year? Probably not.

Finally, from the trouble-makers point of view, we get the true cause of the chaos. The reasons that these people use as an excuse for angering the stars and the fans—they are only here to have their version of a good time.

"That's the whole fun of it. You get drunk, and have fun. And everyone just needs to stay out of your way," responded Billy Smith, a self-proclaimed troublemaker.

Life's been hard on you. It's getting too stressful or either too boring. You need a chance to escape, to let loose, and to beat the daylights out of some poor fool who insults your woman.

Sure feels good doesn't it? Will you be back next year? If you can still move, definitely.

There are so many things wrong with this scene. This type of activity is unfair to the fans, disrespectful to the stars, and just plain unhealthy to the offenders.

Why not just go to hear the music sober? Have a good time, maybe enjoy one social drink, dance with your best girl or guy, and forget about life with aid from the music, not the beer.

Throughout this new year let's all try to keep our heads out of the bottle and keep it focussed on the stage where it belongs. If we want to keep our stars, let's just remember who we are.

— Coy Mazingo, Communication student at Shelton State

Presented by the Sodexo-Marriott Food Court off the Atrium at Shelton State Community College

For a run-down of the day's menu, call the menu hotline at 391-2336

Writers of the selected editorials receive free lunch at the Shelton Food Court. Please submit responses or editorials to the new *Courier* office on the west wing of the second floor.

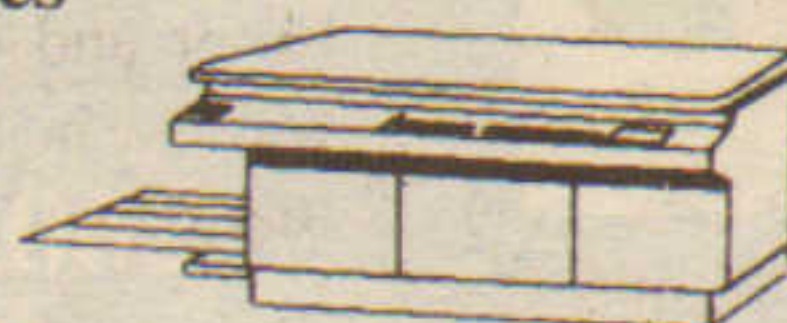
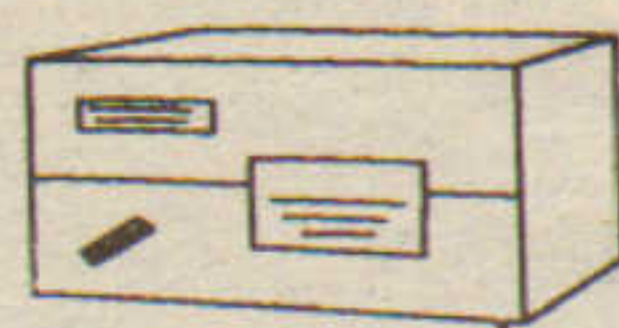
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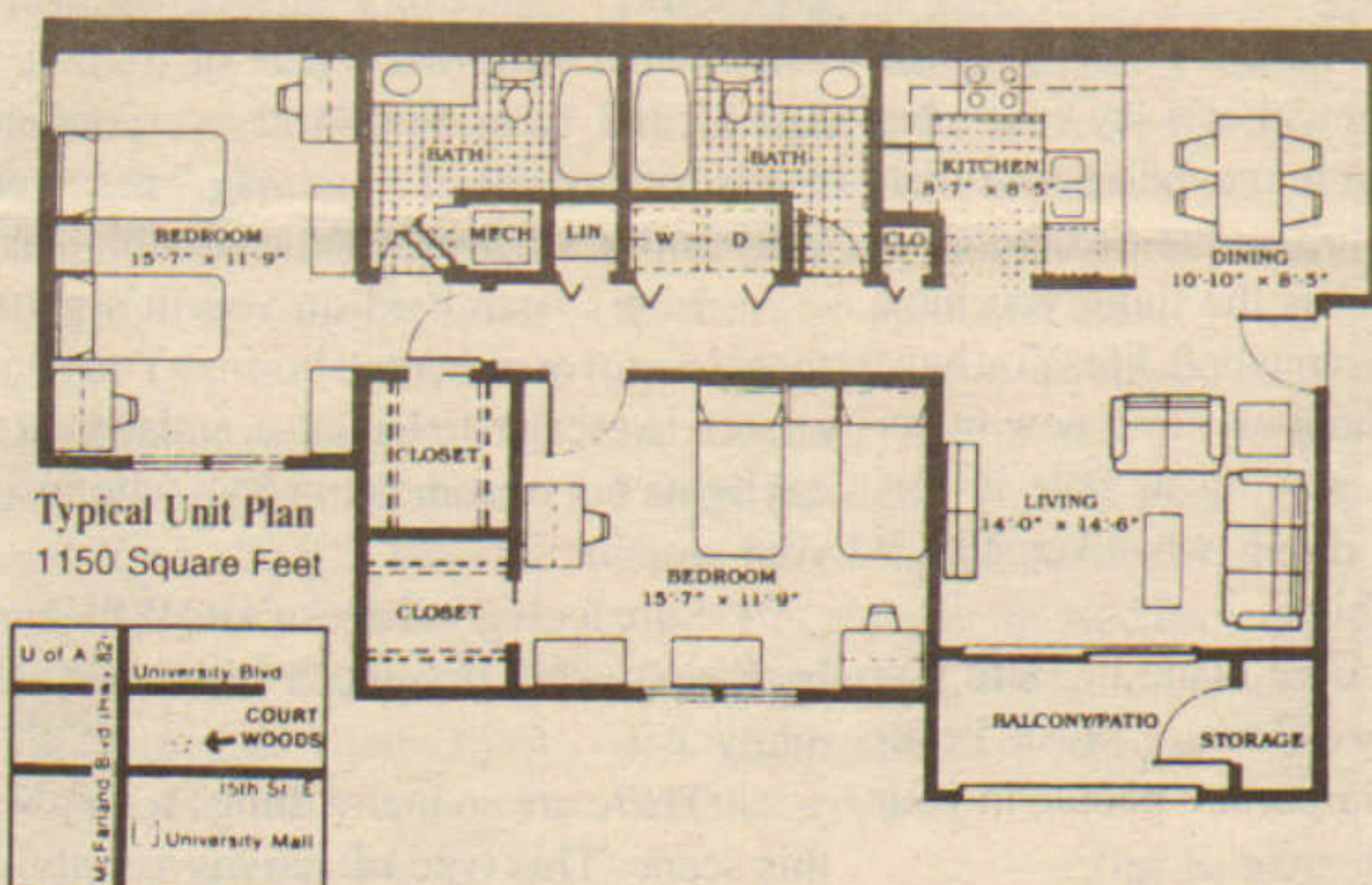
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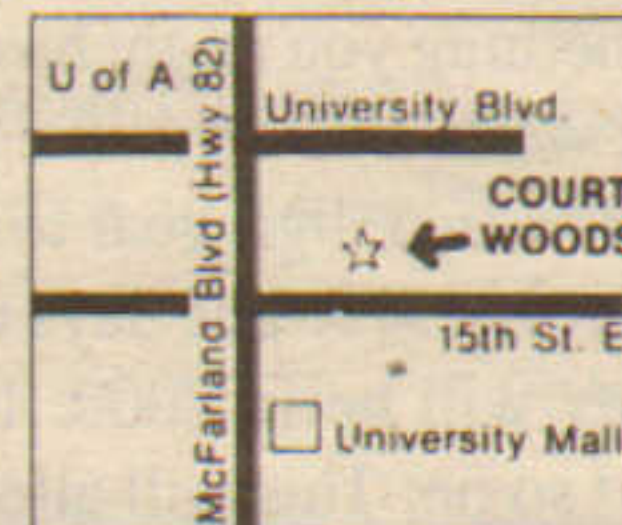
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